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during the day is swept into piles the following morning and carted out of the city. Owing to the excessive number of dogs constantly running about the streets, the narrow sidewalks are often unfit for pedestrians. The lower classes among the men are immodest, if not to say indecent, when visiting the numerous urinals located at various places along the streets and near the public buildings. These are not closed buildings, but in most cases are composed of metal latticework, with a metal plate about 18 inches wide with the lower edge about 12 inches from the ground. This plate is fastened upon the front of the latticework and is intended to obstruct the view of the passers-by from the occupant of the urinal. One of these detestable places may be seen at each of the main entrances of the post-office. Here men may be seen in the urinals, and also going out and in at all times in full view of the lady patrons of the post-office. Frequently garden walls along the streets are used as urinals by this same class of men. The hot rays of the sun beaming upon these exposed places cause very offensive and dangerous odors to arise. *Le Petit Phare*, one of the leading newspapers of the city, has commenced a crusade against these places with a view to having them abolished.

JOSEPH I. BRITTAIN,
United States Consul at Nantes.

Plague precautions at Bordeaux.

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
Bordeaux, France, August 28, 1899.

SIR: Referring to my unnumbered dispatch of August 24, 1899, in regard to the plague as a possible fact at this port, I have the honor to inform you that a meeting of the consular corps at this city was called for the 28th instant with the purpose, as stated, to consider the subject, of asking information of the prefect of this department as to the measures the French Government proposes to take and of consulting on what reports should be made to our respective governments upon this subject.

I declined to attend said conference or be bound by its action or recommendations—

(1) Because in my judgment we have no right to demand of the prefect what his government proposes to do in a contingency that may never arise.

(2) That to offer advice in such a matter would be downright impertinence. We can only assume that the prefect will do what ought to be done.

(3) Because I am responsible for what I may report to my Government, not to the consular corps. * * *

The denial that the Oporto outbreak resulted from any direct communication between that port and India is putting a new and more serious complexion on the event. If true that it came from a vessel which stopped there on its return trip from England, it is probably another evidence of the efficiency of the rat as a plague disseminator.

Should it be thought necessary for our Government to take any preventive measures, I can not too strongly recommend that among the most important of such measures may be a requirement that every exposed or suspected ship shall be fumigated with sulphur under closed hatches for a period sufficient to eradicate the last one of these rodents before granting a bill of health.

This seems to me, considering the length of the ocean voyage and the restricted period of incubation of the plague microbe, the most important feature of preventive quarantine regulations.

Respectfully, yours,

ALBION W. TOURGEE,
United States Consul.

The honorable the ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

GREECE.

Quarantine against Egyptian ports.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, September 13, 1899.

SIR: By direction of the Secretary of State, I have the honor to inform you that in his dispatch No. 43 of August 23, 1899, the consul of the United States at Athens, Greece, reports the following changes in the quarantine regulations of Greece, namely:

1. All arrivals in Greek ports from ports in Egypt and the Red Sea are required to undergo a strict quarantine of eleven days, instead of twelve days as decreed June 26, 1899.

2. Any vessel from said ports of Egypt and the Red Sea that shall have undergone ten days' effective quarantine and a disinfection of the vessel and baggage of both passengers and crew in a European port, and has there communicated with the public, shall only be subjected to a strict medical examination upon its arrival in a Grecian port.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

ALVEY A. ADEE, *Acting Secretary.*

The honorable the SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

HONDURAS.

No yellow fever at Amapala.

UNITED STATES CONSULAR AGENCY,
Amapala, August 25, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to report that there has been no case of yellow fever in my consular district and the surrounding country up to this day.

Respectfully, yours,

RUBERTHOTS,
Acting U. S. Consular Agent.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

INDIA.

Mofussil (rural) plague statistics in the Presidency of Bombay.

The returns for the presidency for the week ended August 11 gave the following results: Kaira District, 58 cases, 46 deaths; total, 2,069 cases, 1,578 deaths. Broach District, 37 cases, 27 deaths; total, 1,530 cases, 1,146 deaths. Surat District, 61 cases, 40 deaths; total, 7,947 cases, 5,842 deaths. Thana District, 108 cases, 86 deaths; total, 12,366 cases, 9,794 deaths. Khandesh District, 1 case, no death; total, 1,000 cases, 810 deaths. Poona District, 1,400 cases, 1,151 deaths; total, 20,163 cases, 15,480 deaths. Satara District, 228 cases, 177 deaths; total, 27,087 cases, 21,211 deaths. Nassik District, 470 cases, 361 deaths; total, 6,573 cases, 5,084 deaths. Sholapore District, 29 cases, 28 deaths; total, 4,912 cases, 3,960 deaths. Ahmednugger District, 45 cases, 31 deaths; total, 1,273 cases, 956 deaths. Kolaba District, 15 cases,